

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 215713

FOR AMBASSADOR SCRANTON

THE FOLLOWING REPEAT JIDDA 5896 ACTION AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

INFO SECSTATE, USMISSION GENEVA DTD 29 AUG 76

QUOTE

UNCLAS JIDDA 5896

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:SREF

SUBJECT: AL-NAJDI REFUGEES

REF DHAHRAN 1098

1. CONSOFF CONTACTED CANADIAN EMBASSY AND FOUND THAT BOTH THE CANADIANS AND REDEC WERE UNAWARE OF THE URGENCY OF THE PROBLEM. BOTH HAD ASSUMED THAT THE REFUGEES WERE SAFELY ENSCONCED IN THE REDEC CAMP IN THE AREA. CANADIAN CONSOFF SAID HE WILL CONTACT WABIL PHAROAN, OWNER OF THE COMPANY, AND RE-EMPHASIZE THE NEED FOR URGENCY.

2. REDEC HAS SENT LETTERS TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR REQUESTING THAT THE REFUGEES BE ALLOWED TO LAND ON THEIR RESPONSIBILITY. BUT HOW MUCH THIS ACTION HAS BEEN FOLLOWED UP IS HARD TO DETERMINE. CANADIANS WILL TRY TO GET MORE ACTION OUT OF REDEC SINCE THEY HAVE BEEN DEALING ON A PERSONAL LEVEL WITH THE OWNERS.

3. CONSOFF SPOKE WITH THE UNDP REPRESENTATIVE ABD AL-LATIF SUKAR, WHO IS ACTING UNDER A REQUEST FROM UNHCR TO AID THE REFUGEES. HE SENT A CABLE TO KING

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KHALID ON 23 AUGUST ASKING THAT THE SAUDIS ALLOW THE

REFUGEES TO LAND IN THE KINGDOM. HE DOES NOT EXPECT MUCH ACTION FROM THAT QUARTER. HOWEVER, HE SAID THE UNHC MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE SOME MAINTENANCE AID FOR THE REFUGEES.

4. CANADIANS WILL NEED ABOUT TWO WEEKS IN ORDER TO PROCESS THE REFUGEES. REFUGEES WILL HAVE TO TRAVEL TO JIDA IN ORDER TO BE PROCESSED. CANADIANS WISH TO KNOW HOW MUCH MONEY THE REFUGEES ARE CARRYING SINCE THEY WILL BE UNABLE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE UNTIL THEIR ELIGIBILITY IS ESTABLISHED. CANADIANS WERE TOLD THE REFUGEES HAD NO TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION. CANADIAN CONSULAR OFFICER SAID HE WILL ATTEMPT TO CONTACT CONGEN DHAHRAN BY PHONE FOR CONFERENCE.

PORTER. UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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